

1. (Currently amended) A steel member (~~10,40,70,100~~) for use in supporting structures and having reduced heat transfer characteristics as compared with solid web studs, and comprising ~~characterized by~~:

a web (~~12,42,72,102,172~~) defining side edges and an axis;

a flange (~~14,44,74,104~~) on at least one side edge;

web openings (~~18,46,76,112~~) through said web (~~12,42,72,102~~) at spaced intervals therealong, of predetermined size and profile, at least a side portion (~~32,58,78,84,120,152~~) of said web (~~12,42,102,170~~) being removed from said opening (~~18,46,76,112~~) and remaining attached integrally to said web (~~12,42,72,102,172~~), and being bent along linear bend lines away from said web (~~12,42,72,102,172~~) along axes parallel to said web axis ;

struts extending across said web between said openings and defining two ends ;

depressions formed in said web at spaced intervals, at opposite ends of said struts;

and, openings formed in said depressions to reduce heat transfer.

2. Cancelled

3. (Currently amended) A steel member (~~10,40,70,100,170~~) as claimed in claim 1, wherein said side portion defines a channel shape extending along an axis parallel to said web axis.

4. (Currently amended) A steel member (~~10~~) as claimed in claim 1 wherein said web openings (~~18~~) are of a shape defining a linear side edge (~~22~~), and an arcuate side edge (~~20~~), said side portion (~~32~~) of said web (~~12~~) being integral with said linear side edge (~~22~~).

5. (Currently amended) A steel member (~~10~~) as claimed in claim 1 wherein there are two said flanges (~~14~~) one on each side of said web (~~12~~); being formed at normal to said web (~~12~~), and lips (~~16~~) formed along said flanges (~~14~~), normal to said flanges (~~14~~).

6. (Currently amended) A steel member (~~10,40,70,100,170~~) as claimed in claim 1 wherein said web openings (~~18,46,76,112~~) are arranged in an alternating orientation and define between them struts (~~34,52,~~) extending diagonally across

said steel member (~~10,40,70,100,170~~).

7. (Currently amended) A steel member (~~10,40,70,100,170~~) as claimed in claim 6 including wherein said openings (38,64, 182) formed in said depressions in said web (12,42,72,102,172) at opposite ends of each said strut are in the form of slots to restrict heat transfer through said member.

8 to 25 Withdrawn

26. (Currently amended) A method of making a steel member (~~10,40,70,100,132~~) having a web (~~12,42,72,102,134~~) defining a web axis and side edges, and a flange (~~14,44,74,104,136~~) along at least one said side edge, and web openings (~~18,46,76,112,144~~) through said web (~~12,42,72,102,134~~), said method comprising characterized by the steps of;
forming said web openings (~~14,44,74,104,136~~) in said web (~~12,42,72,102,134~~) at spaced intervals therealong, with one side of said opening (14,44,74,104,136) leaving a side portion of metal attached to said web along one side of each said web opening (12,42,72,102,134);
forming said edge flange (~~14,44,74,104,136~~) along said at least one side edge of said web (~~12,42,72,102,134~~), and,
forming said side portion out of the plane of said web (~~12,42,72,102,134~~) by bending said side portion along bend lines parallel to the web axis.
27. Withdrawn
28. (Currently amended) A method of making steel member (~~10~~) as claimed in claim 26 and including the step of forming struts (~~34~~) extending across said web (~~12~~) between said openings (~~18~~) and forming slots (~~38~~) in said web (~~12~~) adjacent each end of each strut (~~34~~).

29 to 36 withdrawn .

And add the following new claim ;

37. The method as claimed in claim 28 and including the steps of forming depressions in said web at opposite ends of each said strut, and forming slotted openings in respective said depressions.